

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 119776

70

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 SSM-05

PA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-05

/096 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MVANORDER:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

SSM - MS. GREEN

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

AF/P - MR. POPE

----- 036100

R 151318Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 119776

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USMISSION SINAI
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 119776

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - MAY 14

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR MAY 14,
1976:

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW COMMENT ON THE LEBANESE SITUATION
NOW--REGARDING THE FIGHTING CONTINUING AND THE THREAT
OF MORE SYRIAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT?

A. WE REGRET VERY MUCH THE RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING AGAIN
IN LEBANON, A COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE THAT CERTAINLY
SUFFERED A GREAT DEAL IN THE PAST MONTH WITH MANY LIVES
LOST, UNTOLD WOUNDED AND HURT. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE
CEASEFIRE WOULD HOLD OR BE RESUMED IN ORDER THAT THE
CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL PROCESS IN LEBANON COULD GO
FORWARD.

Q. HAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT, OR HAS THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT, INQUIRED OF THE ISRAELIS ABOUT THEIR SETTLE-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 119776

MENT PLANS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES PURSUANT TO THE NEW YORK
TIMES STORY OF LAST SUNDAY?

A. OF COURSE, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS VERY MUCH
AWARE OF OUR POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS, AND WE WILL BE
DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT WITH THEM FURTHER.

Q. HAVE YOU ALREADY, SINCE LAST WEEKEND?

A. I DO NOT KNOW THAT WE HAVE DISCUSSED IT SINCE LAST WEEKEND, BUT WE WILL BE DISCUSSING IT WITH THEM MOMENTARILY.

Q. YOU MEAN SINCE AMBASSADOR DINITZ IS COMING IN TODAY?

A. YES.

Q. WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE EMBASSY IN BEIRUT NOW?

A. AMBASSADOR FRANCIS MELOY.

Q. YOU SAY AMBASSADOR DINITZ IS COMING IN TODAY?

A. YES. I DO NOT HAVE A TIME, BUT I UNDERSTAND A MEETING IS BEING SET UP.

Q. IS HE COMING IN FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE SETTLEMENTS PROBLEM?

A. I CAN'T SAY SPECIFICALLY WHAT THE SECRETARY AND THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE DISCUSSING, BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THEY WILL BE DISCUSSING TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

Q. WHO ARRANGED THE MEETING?

A. YOU MEAN AT WHOSE INITIATIVE?

Q. WHOSE INITIATIVE.

A. I DO NOT KNOW.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 119776

Q. DID AMBASSADOR DINITZ SPECIFICALLY REQUEST THAT THE MEETING NOT BE PUBLICIZED?

A. I DO NOT KNOW, BUT FREQUENTLY AMBASSADOR DINITZ' APPOINTMENTS WITH THE SECRETARY ARE NOT ON THE CALENDAR, AS ARE A LOT OF OTHER MEETINGS OF AMBASSADORS WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Q. GIVEN YOUR PREVIOUS EXPLANATION, I JUST WONDERED IF THAT WAS THE REASON THAT THIS WAS NOT PUBLICIZED.

A. I DO NOT KNOW THAT.

Q. BACK TO LEBANON, YOU SAY YOU REGRET VERY MUCH THE

RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING. ARE YOU PREPARED TO DO
ANYTHING TO TRY TO STOP IT?

A. WE HAVE BEEN OFFERING OUR GOOD OFFICES AND URGING
ALL PARTIES TO STOP FIGHTING. AND INDEED THAT SEEMS TO
BE THE SENTIMENTS OF A LOT OF RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE IN
LEBANON AS WELL. THAT IS ONE OF THE TRAGEDIES OF THE
LEBANESE SITUATION. A LOT OF LEBANESE WANT THE FIGHTING
TO END, BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, IT CONTINUES TO RECUR. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE119776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MVANORDER:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760189-0550
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760549/aaaabqfy.tel
Line Count: 178
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by wolfsd>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2005 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - MAY 14 FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
TAGS: PFOR, AG, XF
To: ALGIERS
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006